

# East-India-Trade first discovered by the ENGLISH.



Then famous Sir *Francis Drake* (after his return from the South seas *Anno 1580.*) had here divulged his discovery and treaty there with the King of *Ternate*, and his Oran-kaies or Nobles (being one of the principall Spice-Islands of *Molucca*, *Banda* or *Amboyna*, (the onely known places of the

world for Nutmegs, Cloves and Mace, and a principall foundation Plea National. of *East-India*, and all other Trade) thereupon some years after, a vigilant fore-seeing neighbour *Dutch-Nation* (who, like wise Merchants, and carefull parents, providing for childrens portions and posterity) tooke the opportunity of advantage of the negligent and inconsiderate *English*, then and after, altogether for the present :) And the said forreign Nation after some yeares spent in discovery, to gain a right understanding thereof, at last prosecuted their *East-India* voyages with one onely joynt stock of about 600000 li. in a Nationall, free and regulated way, and therewith in forty years gained almost the whole European Trade of *East-India* aforesaid, even to admiration in point of power, honour and profit; so that (*communibus annis*) 1400000 li. or thereabouts, is conceived returned for *Holland* (being but the superfluity of their stock of *India*) besides employment of two hundred, or two hundred and fifty saile of Ships, equall now in burthen to four or five hundred of ours, having thereby also gotten and built there, about thirty impregnable Cities, Towns and Castles, besides Conquest and Command of about 30000 miles coasting (with Inland-trade) viz. from the coasts of *China*, *Japan*, and *Phillippeen* Islands Northwards, all along to *Cape bon Esperanze* Southwards, the whole contents of the Old-*East-India* Companies Patent or Monopoly.

*Dutch stock*  
600000.li.  
*An. 1602.*

*Dutch-gain,*  
*Englands losse.*

Whereas the *English* being, and for some years continuing in particular

Contrary  
Constitutions.

English-Stocks  
3600000 li.

Company no  
Rendezvouze.

Adam Cx.  
Adam Cm.

Ormuz &c.  
neglected.  
Plea National.

particular running-voyages (onely to enrich a few) were afterward reduced to a generall joynt stock, or destructive Monopolly of a different or contrary Constitution and Government to the fore-said *Dutch* or Neighbour-Nation, as might be shewed in sundry particulars, and so hath produced different and contrary effects, as appears at this day by the said Companies mis-employing or mis-spending since in one joynt stock about 1600000 li. in severall joynt stocks above 3600000 li. thereby much impoverishing the Nation and Natives by transporting much Bulloigne, and native coine (elsewhere procurable) onely enriching a few at home and abroad in office and imployment; and (which is wonderfull) notwithstanding all this time and treasure, hitherto not provided in *India* with one port, or place of their owne for a Rendezvouze, or so much as to secure a Ship or Pinnace; but it is not the Authours intention to make search or scrutiny at this time into this mystery, whether proceeding from reason prevaricated by the particular interests and profits of the Governing-party here, or rather from Deity offended, by the cruell and unreasonable intentions and actions of those in office and authority, both here and elsewhere, belonging to the said Company; for to dip my pen in blood's (from the Old-Companies first *Adam's* at *Japan*; to Mr. *Courrens* last *Adam* at *Madagascar* or *Acheen*) would be a sad theme: And to speak of unparalleld injuries and oppressions is no pleasing story, yet duty and necessity (with due respect to truth and sobriety) at present enjoyns me (according to my promise in the Frontispece) to declare somewhat of my long and laborious observation and experience of that hitherto abused *East-India-Trade* (rather *Traffique*) as also of the wofull and sad sufferings therein, of *William Courren* Esquire, his friends and creditors, which are very many and great; onely for orders sake reducing the same to three Terminations or Revolutions, *Infancy*, *State*, and *Declination*, therefore *ad rem*, briefly thus:

The *Englis* being thus improvident, and carelesse of Cities and Castles ready built, and the Royalties and Customes thereof (though of extraordinary value and consequence, and properly belonging to the Crown and Dignity of this Commonwealth) and the *Dutch* Shipping and Trade there, to the Northward (as formerly to the Southward) more and more increasing; and *Portugal*

ingal depredations (whereof the Company had taken good store) sailing; then fell the *English* Traffique there also into a deep and languishing consumption, insomuch that their Actions or Adventures were frequently sold here from party to party, for many years together at 30. 35. and 40. per cent. losse, some much more, others undone, and so continued decaying a long time without any hope of recovery; and about *An. 1632.* And since, some transactions were said to be again in agitation between the *Dutch* on the one party, and the late King and the *English East-India* Company on the other party, concerning their claim or interest in or to any the foresaid Spice-Islands in relation to the Crown of *England* (then said to be comprized for 80000 li. (including the said Companies houses, and stores burnt at *Jacquetra* by the *Dutch Aug. 1628.* valued by protest then at 200000. Rials of eight *Spanish*) but the said King and Company not agreeing upon shares (as reported) the monies yet remaine with the *Dutch*, but what was then and there positively acted is best known to themselves, and whether beneficiall, or rather much prejudiciall to this Commonwealth? for it is certainly reported from men of experience in those parts, that since that time the *Dutch* have assumed the sole & whole propriety of all the foresaid Spice-Islands to themselves, prohibiting the *English* upon penalty and forfeiture of ship and goods, life, limbe and liberty, not to come there with any their shipping, which said losse of Trade by knowing men (*vis & modis*) is valued at 100000 li. per annum consequence, to this Commonwealth.

Trade decayed  
ing from 1614  
to 1634.

Quer. Mr. Boswel the  
Kings Agent  
and store of  
Spice-Islands.

Houses and  
stores burnt,  
& K. demands  
30000 li.

J. H.

A. 1623. trade  
lost valued at  
100000 li. per  
An.

The aforesaid *East-India* Company having thus lost their trade by undervaluing and neglecting those Islands and *Ormus*, &c. *An. 1623.* as formerly exprest, and so brought their coasting and posting Traffique into such a condition, that generall Adventurers were altogether discouraged, and themselves (I mean those in office and authority, (who onely were gainers as aforesaid) still craftily crying up that trade, and labouring as for life, pretending want of freedome, liberty, and other immunities and priviledges in Customes and Imposts, with an unlimited arbitrary power over all Adventurers, and an absolute restraint of the whole Nation, which could have no other issue (save as formerly) to damnishe and destroy our owne, and enrich all others with the riches and dignities of those vast and glorious Kingdomes and Countries, nor con-

Bad govern-  
ment destroys  
Trade.

Good and bad  
government.

Quer. the rea-  
sons.

Considering, or at least not discovering the main and sole causes of these their so unprofitable practices, proceeds meerly and clearly from their unprincipled and generall bad government; and this truth is manifest and apparent, by their exporting hence our owne coine of gold, silver, half Crowns, and Plate (melted or unmelted, as well as foreigne; in as great quantities to maintaine a Traffique of 100. or 150000 li. *per annum*, as the *Dutch* to maintain a Trade of 2000000 li. *per an.* or more, which requires serious consideration and reformation.

Sir William Courten's Expedition.

An. 1634. and  
1635.

Reasons for  
Sir Wil. Cour-  
tens underta-  
kings.

Sir Williams  
Patent legal,  
the Companies  
not.

**VV** Hilst *East-India* affairs were in this low, languishing and desperate condition, it so happened, that the late King and Councell were (by travellers and men of experience) truly informed thereof, and expected some rationall propofalls from the said Company, to recover and revive the same, but finding none satisfactory (for grounded and accustomed errors are neither easily removed, nor willingly acknowledged) and withall considering the damage Nationall, of at least 4. or 500000 li. in *England* and *Ireland*, in the exportation of our Native, and importation of *East-India* commodities (besides employment and improvement of stock and shipping, a great honour and safety to this Nation;) These and other like good considerations moved the said late King and Councell, to admit of another Company to plant and trade in such places onely, where the old Company were not, or did not trade, and there at their discretion to settle Factories and plant Colonies after the *Dutch* manner (and intended practise of the new modelers from that example) the one not to interloop, intrude or intrench upon, or into the Ports and places of the other, as by Letters-patents, or otherwise may plainly appear.

The late King and Councell having thus equally and prudently resolved and ordered this weighty affair, Sir William Courten (a most eminent Merchant and excellent Commonwealths-man) was conceived fittest to undertake and manage the same; and to that end having entertained Merchants and Commanders of good abilities, and long experience there, fitted and set out, An. 1635. five or six saile of Ships richly provided, and so set saile for *East-India*, and arrived at *Goa* (the chiefe *Portugal* City there, intending to settle from *Dabull* in the *Deccan*-Country (once sacked by



by the Companies ship Exchange) and so all along that, and the coast of *Mallabar* to *Cape Commereen* or *Cannereen*, where they settled Factories, contracted Customes, purchased and bought Ports and places for Trade; and from thence sailed to *Acheen*, to *China*, and intended for *Japan*, and afterwards for *Madagascar* and other places; and this was the principall ground-work and foundation of that most excellent, honourable, just and necessary undertaking; indeed a businesse both then and now too weighty for any particular man, or society, and (*rebus sic stantibus*) onely fit for the cognizance or encouragement of the Representative of this whole Nation, or others by their appointment in regard of foreign and domestick opposition, as hereafter expressed.

Sir Williams propriety and foundation.

East-India trade Nationall

Sir *William Courten* aforesaid had no sooner dis-speeded the said ships from the *Downes*, but he fell sick and dyed, having therein (as reported) upon his particular account, an adventure of about 150000 li. and the voyage was no sooner entered, but all manner of devices and oppositions both at home and abroad were used and practiced to prevent, obstruct, damnifie and utterly destroy their designs, both by *Dutch* and *English*; and for the better understanding thereof, somewhat to each party for distinction sake, and first to the *Dutch* because of their distance.

Sir Williams adventure

Dutch and English Devils.

**T**He *Dutch* seriously weighing and pondring that the principles and purposes of this Expedition were much like their own, altogether tended to revive and advance a Trade to perpetuity, (especially in opening and establishing a *China* and *Japan* trade, whereto the old Company would never be perswaded neither to trade with the *Mallabars* as aforesaid) therefore the *Dutch* (lest their honours and profits should thereby be impaired and diminished) watched and spied out their designs at *Goa* and coast of *Mallabar* aforesaid, and upon the very first proceedings of Captain *John Weddall* with the foresaid Fleet, from *Goa* aforesaid, and so through the straights of *Malacca*, and in their passage to and again from *China* aforesaid, upon their lawfull imployments, were sundry times encountred and molested by the *Dutch*; and at last (having a Commission from *Heer van Deeman* (as I take it) the Generall of *Jaccatra alias Battavia*) to fire or sink them, unlesse they would come under their command.

Dutch apprehensions upon good reasons.

Dutch Commission fire and sword.

Dutch and  
English Com-  
manders trans-  
actions.

Dutch reasons  
for revenge.

Capt. William  
Swanleys test.

mand and submit to their mercy, or deliver them the *Portugals* and their goods aboard, valued about 200000 li. But Captaine *Richard Swanley* (Commander of Ship *Sonne*) and his Company were unwilling to fight in defence of the *Portugals* and their goods (because from them they had received many injuries and affronts in *China*) whereat Captain *Weddal* was much enraged; but Captain *Swanley* advised Captain *Weddal* to open the box Numb. 8. with instructions from *England* concerning *Portugal*, wherein they found power was given them to seize any *Portugals*, and their goods for the Crown of *England* in case they suffered any damage by them, and then Captain *Weddal* seized upon the goods accordingly; so Captaine *Swanley* and his company were satisfied and resolved upon that account to hazard their lives in defence thereof, and the *Sonne* being of best force, having six and thirty Guns mounted, weighed anchor and went a head the *Dragon* to receive the first encounter, then Captain *Swanley* went aboard the *Dutch* Commandoor, and acquainted him with their resolutions and grounds thereof, whereat the said Commandoor and Company was much incensed, but thereupon refrained engagement, and desired a copy of their Orders and Instructions to keep his head on his shoulders (as he said) when he returned to *Jacatra* (which peradventure was granted conditionally to prosecute to purpose the year following) and so in a grumbling threatening manner suffered them to passe; but still observed their motion, and Captain *Weddal* afterward refused Captain *Swanleys* advice, which was to make good that seizure, and bring those goods for *England*, but contrarily Captain *Weddal* (according to his particular contract in *China*) landed the said *Portugals* and their goods in *India*; Then the *Dutch* finding themselves thus deluded by a device, doubtlesse resolved upon an opportunity for a revenge, so the Ship *Sonne* being laden, set sail that year from the coast of *Mallabar* for *England*: but the *Dragon* and *Katherine* having a rich stock, and not lading to their desires staid another year, when being expected home, it was then credibly and positively reported in *Holland* (by some that came from *India*) that they had sunk, or that the said Ships *Dragon* and *Katherine* were sunk, which (taken at best) they could not have told, unlessse they had known it, because it was never yet known or heard that

two Ships either *Dutch* or *English* did ever perish together by casualty or tempest, to or from *India* aforesaid. And their very silence herein, is a sufficient argument of their full revenge, and satisfaction to those that have spent some years amongst them at *Jacquera*, and acquainted with their lofty and insolent carriage towards, and their rigid and austere government over the inconsiderable bragging pedling *English* (as they term and value them) besides it was also reported that some of the said Ships goods marked with Mr. *Courten*'s mark, were after wards sold at *Acheen*, and the common rumour in *India* and elsewhere, by severall Nations were, That the *Dutch* way-laid them with a Fleet (as some affirmed) consisting of nine saile, viz. six Ships, and three Yaughes or Pinnaces (whereof Ship *Amsterdam* was Admirall) and to meeting with them of *Zealoan* (whereof *John Tyson* a Zealoan the Skipper was afterwards made King by the Generall *Jaccatra*, as appeared by his warrants) invited Captain *Weddal* aboard (as some said) and then took occasion to quarrell, and so to pillage and sink them, not saving a man alive, and that divers, the old Companies servants in *India* have both heard and related sundry such probable reports to that purpose, howsoever here an uncharitable silence and reservation, or rather fear to offend others, and to prejudice themselves, makes them beware.

two ships never perished together from India.

T. L.

T. W.

This great losse valued about 140000 li. occasioned divers years to passe, ere another voyage for *China* by *William Courten* Esquire (Son and Executor to the aforesaid *Williams*) was undertaken, which was An. 1643. in Ship *Bon Esperance*, which said ship was freighted from *Goa* aforesaid for *China*, & passing through the straights of *Malacca* upon her lawful employment, as aforesaid, met likewise with another *Dutch* Fleet, and was by them summoned as aforesaid, to go in there under their command, else their Commission was to sink or burn, kill or slay, and so upon refusal to go in, the said Ship was violently assaulted, the Master and others slain, and at last taken and made reprisall, and carried into *Malacca*, and all the men living, made prisoners, and the *English* (by their own relation) more basely esteemed and used by the *Dutch*, then the *Portugals* their reputed enemies, and as these men did frequently report afterwards at *Batam* and elsewhere, that it was a common speech in *Malacca*, that the two foresaid Ships *Dragon* and *Katherine* were sunk by the *Dutch*, and that

Zealoan the  
ily Synamond  
land.  
Jo. Tyson K. of  
Zealoan.  
Dragon and  
Katherine were  
ched at Co-  
cheen, then  
way-laid and  
sunk.  
Uncharitable  
silence.

Ship Bon  
Esperance taken  
by Dutch.

Common re-  
port at Malacca

*Mr. Courtens extraordinary sufferings thereby,*

some *Dutch* themselves said unto them, they did well to yeeld when they did, else they should have fared like the Dragon, and *Katherines* Company.

Capitaine  
Blackman esca-  
ped, and af-  
fronted in  
China,

And Capitaine *Jeremiah Blackman* in his retume from *China*, in ship *William*, nearly escaped the like danger, having lately suffered at *China* sundry affronts and prejudices, both from *Dutch*, and the old Companies servants, aspersing them for Round-heads, and declaring themselves Royalists, and Cavaliers, and so gained the affection of the *Portugals*, and *Chinæes*, as the Merchant of the said ship *William* reported in *India*.

John Stratsford  
in Southwarke  
rest,

There hath been also further considerable discoveries here in *England*, and (*inter alia*) of an imbroidered Girdle with silver buckles, belonging to Mr. *John Dawbney* Chirurgion of the said ship *Katherine*, and knowne to be alive and well in the said ship, setting saile for *England* from the coast of *Mallabar*, which said very Girdle of certaine knowledge, both of the buckles and imbroidery, a *Dutch* Saylor or sea-man in *Southwarke* was seen to weare, and the party was fully resolv'd to apprehend him upon suspicion, but dissuaded by friends and acquaintance, but could not be so satisfied; but went to the said *Dutchman*, and demanded how, where, and when he came by the said Girdle? the *Dutchman* at first seemed angry, and asked the reason of his inquiry; he replyed, because that was his friends Girdle, which he resolv'd, and so declared here to his friends and himselfe, before his going for *India*, never to sell or give away the same; at last the *Dutchman* confest he had it in *India*, the said party (as he said) did then thinke in his very heart that the said *Dutchman*, and one or two more with him, were some of their Murtherers, and after that time saw him no more; only acquainted the *East-India* Company, or some of their Servants therewith (not knowing Mr. *Courtens*) but being by them slighted, suffered it so to passe (as himselfe said) and would justifie upon Oath if thereunto lawfully called, with much more to that purpose; but what need I hold a Candle to the Sun?

Jo Dawbnies  
girdle.

The Dutch-  
mans confes-  
sion.

C. W. S.  
M. T. L.,

More;

Moreover, the aforeſaid Capitaine *Jeremiah Blackman*, Com-  
mander of the ſhip *William*, was likewiſe in the ſaid Streights, in  
her lawful Voyage to *China*, by another *Dutch* Fleet ſtrongly  
threatned with ſinking, or burning, unleſſe he would ſubmit as  
aforeſaid, and ſhew'd him their Commiſſion to that very pur-  
poſe, but the ſaid *Dutch* (though moe ſhips in number) view-  
ing and ſeeing her every way well fitted and manned for defence,  
durſt not attempt, but ſuffered her to paſſe, and notwithstanding  
the diſcreet answers of *C. B.* aforeſaid to their Meſſages, having  
neither *Portugall*, or *Portugall* goods, yet by Letters, threats,  
and other wayes they thought to diſturbe and prevent him in his  
*China* Trade as aforeſaid, and upon his returne (as was repor-  
ted) way-laid him with a greater Fleet of ſeven, or nine ſayle,  
but met not with him, the reaſon was, (as moſt conceiv'd) that  
the *Dutch* ſuppoſed, that the feare of them might cauſe *Cap. B.* to  
keep a good diſtance from the coaſt of *Malacca*, and peradven-  
ture to paſſe through the ſtreights of *Sundie*, but the *Dutch*  
fail'd of that hope, for the ſaid ſhip came as neare the coaſt of  
*Malacca* as poſſible they could, and paſſed faire by the roade,  
and ſo through the ſtreights without interruption, or ſight of any  
*Dutch* ſhips, which was much admired by the *Dutch* at *A-  
cheen*. But ſhortly after this two of the old Companies ſhips re-  
turning together the ſame Voyage from *China*, were encounte-  
red by ſome of the aforeſaid *Dutch* fleete, and (according to  
cuſtom) without reſiſtance ſubmitted to their Summons, and went  
in under their command at *Malacca*, to pay what duties, and re-  
ceive what further admonitions and inſtructions the *Dutch* there  
would pleaſe to lay upon them, and ſo probably ever ſince, they (as  
formerly elſewhere) deſerted thoſe *China* Voyages; or became  
their tributaries, whereby at pleaſure the *Dutch* can now pre-  
vent all hopes of future Trade into any thoſe Southerne parts,  
unleſſe ſome remedy or courſe be taken here in *England* to pre-  
vent their practiſes; the conſideration hereof, together with ſome  
particular grudge againſt Captain *Weddall* at the ſiege of *Cales*  
may ſufficiently evince the truth of the premiſes, and that the  
true cauſe was the feare of competition in that Trade, and not  
their diſſerence with the *Portugall*, as they pretended.

Ship *William*  
way-laid,

East-India  
Companies  
ſubjection.

Com. *Wid-  
brand*, at *Goa*,  
The true and  
pretended cau-  
ſes of *Dutch*  
proceedings!

Object. But many object, and ſay, It is impoſſible to com-  
ceale



Several judgements.

Ambony's action.

Jaccar. 1627.

Houses, &c. burnt.  
Aug. 1618.

Dutch damages valued at  
200000. l.

Two ships never perished  
together.

such a horrid and wastefull use of sinking and drowning, &c. I never thus.

Those who have had their education at home, may possibly in truth have some such slender apprehensions, and decentfull judgements in a charitable construction, yet if such would but seriously consider what cruel plots and projects have secretly, and abundantly been lately acted in our owne and neighbour Nations, might thence receive sufficient information and satisfaction. But others from observation and experience abroad, thinks it as strange on the contrary, that so much testimony upon so little inquiry should so evidently appeare, the least whereof being more then the greatest of all the Indicies in that horrid *Ambony's* action: besides, better to informe their judgements, I will instance, or parallel it with a passage at *Jaccara* in *India*, Anno 1628. and it was thus:

*January*, 1627. the *English* removing thence from *Jaccara* aforesaid to *Batavia*, but leaving their houses with goods and stores to a great value, as by *Invoices* and protest under others and my owne hands then and afterwards appeared; which said houses, &c. in *August*, 1628. were fired and burnt by the aforesaid *Dutch*, (and the walls afterwards laid even with the ground) and by them reported to be done by the *Javians* their enemies, which report (notwithstanding many thousand inhabitants there (most knowing the same) was never in *Dutch* contradicted, or the truth thereof ever yet published or confessed by any of them to this day that ever I heard of; which plainly shewes it much more easie to conceale the destruction of the *Dragon*, and *Katherine*, which with the aforesaid ship *Bonifera*, and *Hon. Bonaventura*, at *Mauritius* Island, may amount in value to about 200000. li.

Furthermore, it was never yet knowne (as formerly expressed) that two ships, neither *English* nor *Dutch* perished together, either going to, or coming from *India*, since their first Trading thither to this present, though much weaker in substance, or of longer continuance in the Country, &c. Thus far the *Dutch*.

But least *foreign* Adversaries (as their actions and expressions plainly demonstrate) should not fully effect their desires,



let us look back againe to the beginning of this so honest and honourable undertaking, and with as much truth and plainnesse as may be, briefly touch, or point at the practice and proceedings of our owne Nation and Neighbours, more particularly the *Old East-India Company*, and some others, which may much confirm and seal the truth of the Premises, viz.

It hath been too apparent from the beginning how strongly and strangely the said *East-India Company* have endeavoured by all means at home and abroad, continually to oppose, obstruct, diminish, and prevent the lawfull proceedings of the said *Sir William Courten* deceased, and *William Courten* Esq; his son for at or before the arrivall of the said Fleet in *India*, a contract was made with the Vice-roy of *Goa* by the said Companies President, and thereupon a ship freighted thence for *China* by the *Portugals*, so anticipare and prejudice the said designe; being the first *English* ship ever sent thither by the said Company, and that upon freight, as having neither monies nor goods of their own but good store of private trade; and the said President afterwards homeward bound to *Madagascar* received divers courtesies from the Commander of *Mt Courten* ship *William*; outward bound (as credibly reported) promising a fair and friendly reception for the same by his letter to the said Vice-roy, but the purpose thereof (as was said) was of a contrary tenour; and of such dangerous consequence (if it had been delivered) that it might have hazarded the surprizall of the ship and goods, or promoted some difference or dispute either from the *Portugals* or *Mauritius*, where *Mr. Courten* his Factor (with extraordinary charges had obtained) and secured divers Factories for accommodation of Trade, so perpetuity as aforesaid.

Likewise at home *Mr. Courten* was often molested with sundry frivolous complaints, and divers prejudiciall, and vexatious informations at Councel-board before this Parliament, as when the Plantations of *Mauritius* and *Madagascar* were prevented, and so left for the *Dutch*, and since at severall Committees, too tedious to relate, whose example incited the said Company, and their Factors to a far greater care then formerly in the management and enlargement of their Trade; Inasmuch that this advantage thereupon to them shortly accrued, that whereas their actions or adventures, were formerly sold for many years together, at 30.

The *Old East-India Company*, &c.

East-India Company Ship Lond.

W.M.P.  
E.H.C.

Foundation for Trade

*Mauritius* prevented,  
Also *Madagascar*.  
B. Southamton,  
E. Arundel.

Trade adven-  
ced Mr. G. C.

Ships relieved,  
monies lent,  
men redeemed  
&c.  
Brightwel Jo.  
&c.  
Men Working  
sacrificed.

The Compa-  
nies competi-  
tors. P. R.

Com. well re-  
solutions,

33. of 40. per cent. losse, or more, as aforesaid; on the contrary, upon, or presently after this Expedition, they yeilded 30, 35, or 40, per cent. profit, or more (as some of themselves reported) yet for all this, the said Company desisted not from prosecuting year after year, although Mr. Courten and his Commanders, and Factors, had sundry wayes and times requited their cruell injuries with manifold and divers extraordinary courtesies, as relieving their ships with provisions, their Factors with monies, and redeeming sundry times their men with large summes from the miserablest Malabar Captivity that ever was heard of (as in this said mens expressions is lamentably declared) some of them lying ten or twelve months together in most sad distresse, conceiving the Turkish slavery, a Paradise to their dolefull Captivity; and to aggravate their misery, those that suffered most were taken (not in the Companies service by their own relation) but employed by their Presidents, and others in private trade from Port to Port, being therein (to use their owne language) the Companies Competitors and to scue their afflictions to the height, the then President of *Surra* (by whom they were principally employed) would neither relieve them himselfe, nor appoint any other, nor afford them their own wages and debts, due from the said Company for their ransome or subsistence, no nor so much as any the least comfort at all either in word or writing, as by their owne most grieuous, wofull, and patheticall expressions to Mr. Courten Factors, may more largely appear.

But lest these and like practices should not fully effect their purposes, I will give you a hint of their more cruell and desperate courses, (if we may believe the free and friendly expression of one of their own Factors) upon good testimony taken at *Rabag* in *India* 4. May 1644. and afterwards made good in *England* upon oath in *Chancery*, 23. Feb. 1646. as followeth verbatim.

Rabag

Rabagg 4. Marcii 1644.

**T**Hese are to certifie all whom it may concerne, That  
in October 1642. I underwritten R.H. being in  
company with Mr. J. S. (then a servant to  
Esquire Courten) at the Cardinals-Hat near the Royal-  
Exchange in London, drinking after Exchange-time as  
usually; there came into our company divers other Mer-  
chants, all unknown to me (I believe not to Dtt. S.) one  
of which was (as by his discourse) sometimes Factor in East-  
India for the Old Company, and then lately come from  
thence, who relating the severall passages and dangers he  
had passed in his voyage out, and home, and my selfe reply-  
ing, That I was upon Dtt. designe in service of the  
Worshipfull William Courten Esquire (whose dayes God  
make ever happy) his the said Factors reply was; As a  
friend I tell it you, proceed not in that employment, for it is  
most dangerous, because the said Old East-India Company,  
and the Dutch have **Agreed** together to injure the Esq;  
either at Cape-good-hope, or where else they shall meet  
with his ships to the effect of sinking, burning, or taking:  
All which, I the aforesaid R.H. doe affirme to be true, as  
heard in the place aforesaid, and by Oath will confirme the  
same, when thereunto lawfully called. In witness whereof I  
have hereunto set my hand the day and year above  
written.

R.H.

Jurat. de veritat. permiss. 23. die Feb. 1646. J. A.

This Affidavit made good since upon Oath in Chancery, need  
no Commentary, for it speaks very plain and fully, to the whole  
businessse, neither can any other construction be made thereof, as  
proceeding from any particular Interest, or by respects, but a  
friendly

The  
Agree-  
ment.

*Mr. Courtens Tragedy,*

friendly admonition of a known truth, as both before and after by the said agreement of the said parties, and their severall actions plainly appeared.

May 1643.  
Comp. 2 ships  
Hart and Hind.

For the said *East-India* Company proceeded, and took occasion in May 1643. being (the year following) to visit the coast of *Mallabar* with two of their ships, and there found an Anker (in the road of *Cannanore*) two Vessels, a greater, and a lesser, belonging to *Mamula Croe* on *Mahmet d' Croe* (King of *Cannanore* afore said) and other merchants, with whom Mr. *Courtens* Factors had good trade and correspondence, having a Factory sometime there, and another at *Barricalla*, not far from thence, with a costly building of his owne. The said two ships belonging to the said *Mahmet de Croe*, being very rich in treasure of gold and silver, and newly come from the *Red-Sea*, were then and there both violently seized on by the Companies said two ships, and so made reprisall killing and drowning some hundreds of their men, without mercy (as was reported) and tooke from them in treasure, thirty or forty thousand pound Sterling the most whereof belonged to *Mamula Croe* afore said, which act not onely caused the losse of those Factories, Trade, and friendly correspondence in those parts, but to this day the said *Mamula Croe* doe demands the said losse, with damages from Mr. *Courtens* Factors, then threatening them with utter despoiling both by Sea and Land, if they made not speedy satisfaction, as by severall assertions, and other expressions did plainly appear.

Mahmet de  
Croe K. of  
Cannan. &c.

Mallabar de-  
predations,  
30 or 40000 li.  
1 vessel & 40  
tan burthen.

Mahmet d'  
Croes demands

Moreover, it was by the said *Mallabars* alleadged, That because the Companies Factors, and Factories were at such a distance, therefore they could not attain their right from them; but from Mr. *Courtens* (living near or amongst them) they might, saying further, that *England* is said to be a place of Justice, where Mr. *Courtens* may obtaine full right from the Company, but how far they are mistaken hitherto, both in that, and the following five thousand pound principall, which prejudiced M. *Courtens* above forty thousand pound in one year) I leave to those in Authority, and others, whom it may concerne to judge, and consider.

Mallabars plea.

Mr. Courtens  
damage.

Comp. ship  
Hopewel  
B. L. Master.

And last this should not be a sufficient provocation, in this country, but was, another of the said Companies ships seconded the said traders, with other Manufactures upon poore people in country

country Boats, trading too and fro upon the said coast of *Mallabar*, as by another Attest may also appeare; whereby they have constrained the *Mallabars* to desire the *Dutch* to reside at *Canimare*, and protect them against the *English*, thereby hazarding the losse of that Trade, to the further great prejudice of this Common-wealth. the *Dutch* never there before, but now feared neare *Carwar* will also indanger that which is one, and all the places enjoyed by any *English* in *India*, fit for a *Randevrouz*.

R.W. Attell.  
Dutch entered  
Mallabar &c.  
noget shew  
entiret A has

Carwar now  
in danger.

In further prosecution of the foresaid Agreement, or Covenant, Combination, or Conspiracy, about two yeares after, viz. in *May*, 1644. it so happened at *Madagascar* that R. B. Master of the said Companies Ship *Endeavour* subtilly, and surreptitiously got possession of about 5000. li. value in *Barbary* gold, and two brasse Guns, with seventeen men, all saved by their great industry out of the ship *Little William* cast away beyond *Cape bon Esperance*, going to *India* upon Mr. *Courtenis* employment, which said B. &c. partly by false reports, and partly by faire promises, pretending then, and afterwards at all times and places convenient, he would assist them in the transport thereof to some of Mr. *Courtenis* Factories in *India*, or else to *Acheen*, whither they were consign'd; but being posselt thereof, intended nothing lesse, but delivered the same at *Madrasapatan* to F. D. &c. the said Companies chiefe Agent there, and by them the same is detained to this day, though often and lawfully demanded in *India*, with much earnestnesse and extraordinary hazard, and exceeding great charge by Sea and Land, as appeares by many severall Letters, Protefts, Messengers, &c. the said Companies Factors alwayes concealing the same in *India* for many months together, both men and monies from the knowledge of all Mr. *Courtenis* Factors (though but fifteen dayes journey by a Foot-post, and upon the same continent, & converted the said monies to their own use (for it seems they much wanted supplies) and they so ordered and disposed of the men, that but one of all the said seventeen ever yet appeared to tell any tales or tidings to Mr. *Courtenis*, or any his Factors, either in *India* or *England* that ever I heard of, no not so much as any word or writing from any one of them, though it be reported that T. C. Mr. of the said Ship *William*, (who had the principall charge thereof) dyed in one of the said tings.

Ship little  
William.

R. B. and F. D.  
monies detain-  
ed, demand-  
ed by messen-  
gers, letters,  
protefts, &c.

Extraordinary  
charges and  
concealments  
of men and  
monies.

T. H. Factor.

T. C. no writ-

Com-



*Mr. Courtens many courtships miserably requited*

This concealment compared with Dragon and Katherine.

Companies ships homeward bound; therefore let the judicious reader compare and consider all circumstances, and then conclude how farre this concealment comes short of that of the *Dragon* and *Katherine* aforesaid, and how much inferior for cruelty and damage.

T. H. unwillingness.

Their bondage at Madrasapatan.

The fore-mentioned party (one of the seventeen) sundry years after being accidentally heard of, and found out in *London* (his Conscience seeming to accule him) being Purser and Factor of the said ship *William*, in Office next to the aforesaid C. and perceiving Mr. *Courtens* in a condition not to prosecute in Law, was very unwilling to make any relation thereof, but afterwards was constrained thereto by an Order from the House of Lords, and confirmed the same in *Chancery*, which he said was done very sparingly; and further said, that if he should have spoken his knowledge therein freely, it would have been a great shame and disgrace to the said Company, and that he could make such a discovery of that passage at *Madrasapatan*, how they were kept in durance, and that the said D. &c. would not suffer them to goe from *Acheen* with their Gold, &c. although they had agreed with a Country Vessel or Junke at 40. l. for their passage or transport, neither would they be suffered to write, or travell by Land to Mr. *Courtens* Factories, but were forced to submit to their pleasure, and be at their dispose, and the like, being all seventeen strangers in *India*, and never there before, &c. The said parties sparing Relation and Affidavit is as followeth.

*To the Right Honourable the Lords assembled in Parliament.*

*The humble and true Attestation of T. H. Factor, concerning East-India passages, relating to 5000. l. in controversy between William Courtens Esq; and the old East-India Company.*

**T**He 7th. of May, 1644. Ship *Endeavour* belonging to the *East-India Company* arrived in *Augustine Bay*, upon the Island of *St. Lawrence*, at which time was resident upon the same place seventeen persons of Esq; *Courtens*, which through shipwrack had then lived there almost nine moneths; At the arriving



arriving of the foresaid *Endeavour*, my selfe and six more went aboard at the same time, the Mr. R. B. and the Merchant, H. O. were going ashore, upon our coming they stayed a little, enquiring of us our disaster and then went away. After which some of our company discoursing with theirs, revealed concerning the saving of the *Barbary* Gold, which newes was sent ashore to the foresaid Master, and Merchant, who presently returned aboard to have further knowledge, and then went ashore againe to visite our Master, T. C. unto whom they proffered passage with all his Company, and what we had unto *Joanna*, or their Factorie in *India*, and that we might have from thence conveyance for our Gold unto the Elquaires Factories per bills of Exchange, or carried over land. And they further informed us, that we might expect ships out of *England*, but there was small hopes, for they had been a long time ready, but were stopt by the Parliament, that our Master Esquire *Courten* was sailing.

Upon these resolutions our Master accepted of their loves for passage to *Joanna*; After we had been at sea some five dayes, the Master and Merchant of ship *Endeavour* desired of T. C. to see the Gold, and know the quantity, and likewise to peruse his Invoice, and his Bill of lading, or else they would take no charge of the Gold; which desire was granted by the said T. C. who produced the Gold, with Bill of lading and Invoice, the which they looked on and copied out, the Gold they weighed with rials of 8. and sealed them up together in bagges, and put it into one of their Masters chests of money.

Before we came to *Joanna*, the Master and Merchant perswaded T. C. not to remaine on *Joanna*, because there was never any of our *English* that once lay ashore that lived, and that upon arrivall at their Factory we should be accomodated with any thing for our further passage; which perswasion T. C. received.

In our passage from *Joanna* to *Madraffapatan*, R. B. Master of the said ship *Endeavour*, brought out his Commission upon the quarter deck, and read it openly in the hearing of the said T. C. and divers others of the said C. his Company, wherein the terme Interloper was often recited, and being read, he the said R. B. demanded of the said T. C. to see his Commission,

Two months  
after M. Cour-  
tens ship arri-  
ved there.

The Gold ti-  
ken in charge.

Falſe ſuggeſti-  
ons, Joanna  
very healthful,  
teſt. 22. Com-  
panies men.

Companies  
Commissions  
scandal, and  
large.

which was only Orders, and Instructions, by vertue of Letters Patents, whereof the said B. tooke a Coppy; and the said R. B. then told the said T. C. that by vertue of his Commission, if he had met him at sea he had power to take him.

Master D.  
positive and  
often denials.

The second of July we arrived at one of the Companies Factories in *Madraffapatan*, where being ashore, T. C. requested the Companies Agent and Factors, That according to their informations and promise, that they would assist us for the transporting of the said Gold, either by bill of Exchange, or conveyance over Land unto some of the Esquires Factories; the which they denied, answering, that the Country was up in armes, and there was no safe passages. We then requested the Agent and Councel to give us his Passe, and let us have Servants and Guides, and we would travell with it, or else to make it over by bills of Exchange; his answer againe was, That he would not, and that if we would have our Gold, that we should presently be gone out of their Fort, for they were bound by Commission from their Employers from assisting us, if we were in need, with so much as a peece of bread; And he would not say he would send any after us, but we should take what followed.

Companies  
Agreement and  
Commissions  
suitable.

Perfect durance  
with the gold.

We also asked an *English-man* (that had been formerly their Servant, but then a Free-man) that if he would entertaine us, and the Gold in his house securely, and procure us a Convoy to passe over-land, we would give him a large recompence; his answer was, That he did not dare to doe any such thing, for by the *English* there he should be forced to fly, and lose all he had.

Per fas, aut ne-  
fas.

Moreover, H. O. Merchant of the *Endeavour*, related unto me, T. H. That they would never have gone from *Angu-  
fine* Bay without the Gold, for if they had not had it by faire meanes, they would have tooke it perforce; whereby I conceive we might have continued upon the Island for all them, if there had been no Gold.

Moreover, after our arrivall at *Madraffapatan* aforesaid, it was credibly reported (and I doe verily beleieve it true) That that Factory was in very great want of supplies, the Factors disposing there formerly of their Gold chaines, and Silver buttons, to supply their great necessities; As further also appeared in their journal Letter, A. ending 3 August, 1644. having the said Gold

Gold therein entred, and then ballanſing their Account, there was paid then to account of intereſt, 4095. Pagodies.

Quick converſion.

April 13. 1647.  
Poſtſcript.

All or moſt of the Gold mentioned hereinaſ, as Ducats, Nobles, and Barres, were melted and quoyed into Pagodies, the coyne current of *Madraſſapatan* aforeſaid, before my coming thence.

T. H. aforeſaid maketh Oath, that the contents of this Aſſertation are in ſubſtance true. Jurat. 15. April, 1647.

R. A.

The ſaid T. H. was formerly ſworne at the L. Bar.

Strange ſtorics.

Jo. M. Captain  
at Liſbone  
with Rupert.  
Ship Tho. and  
John.

Cruel Com-  
miſſions.

The Golds  
proprietor.

This Aſſidavit (though very ſhort and ſparing, according to the Parties owne expreſſion) is no whit unfaitable to the foregoing Agreement, for C. and H. and all the 17. being never before in *India*, were made beleve ſtrange things; as firſt, No ſhips would come that year, Mr. *Courten*s ſhip *Loyalty* coming thither about two moneths after; That *Joanna* was ſuch a very dangerous place, whereas about two moneths after, twenty two men of the ſaid Companies were left aſhore there by I. M. alias *Mac O Neal*, commander of their ſhip *John*. Now called Sir J. M. one of Prince R. cheife Captaines, late at *Liſbone* in *Portugall*, which ſaid twenty two men were all ( ſave one ) ſound and well, ſhortly after taken thence by one of Mr. *Courten*s ſhips, and carried for *India*, but the Gold was the maine buſineſſe, for after B. and O. had taken it in charge, it was never more after delivered to C. nor any of the reſt, but poſſitively by D. and the reſt upon all occaſions and demands denied, B. alledging his power to take the ſhip, much more the Gold; and D. al-  
lenging their Commiſſions not to ſave any of Mr. *Courten*s people from periſhing, with ſo much as a peece of bread; O ſtrange cruelty!

But from the Premiſes it is evident, that this gold belonged properly to Mr. *Courten*, and was abſolutely by him intended for the ſupply and reliefe of his Trade at *Acheen*, and in *India*, and his plantation and diſcoverie of *Madagaſcar*, *Aſſada*, and the reſt, but the damage ſuſtained by the denial, and unjuſt detaining thereof, is almoſt incredible, and not eaſily apprehended,

Losse incre-  
dible.

Trade and  
Plantation de-  
stroyed.

100000 li. per-  
sonal losse, be-  
sides National.

Dutch and  
English dam-  
nifications,

for that very year 1644. it prevented the return of four ships at least (to my knowledge) two from *India*, and two or three from *Acheen*, all upon Mr. *Courtens* owne account, also caused the saile of about 300. tuns of goods at 40. per cent. losse, likewise a dead Charge of Customes, & Factors, Factories at *Carwar*, *Rainpoore*, *Rabagg*, *Goa*, *Acheen* and elsewhere for divers years together to a very great Summe, and utterly destroyed the Plan- tation of *Madagascar* by preventing recourse of shipping with supplies, with many more damages and sad inconveniences (besides losse of trade ever since) so that (*computat. computand.*) 100000 li. will not make good the personall and reall losse and dammification thereof to Mr. *Courtens* (i.e. Nationall) as by this following Charge, and the particulars therein exprest may plainly appeare.

*Dragon* and *Katherine*, and other Dutch dammifications ad- ded, will amount the whole losse to 300000 li.

## The Charge.

The East-India Company, Old, or New, or both, together with their Factors, now or late in East-India aforesaid. (especially R. B. Master, and H. O. Merchant of their Ship Endeavour, and F. D. their Agent at Madraffapatan, and the rest, are truly Chargeable, and duely Responsible for principall, and damage (by their misdoings in India aforesaid) To William Courten Esquire, Son and Executor to Sir William Courten Knight, deceased, viz.

**T**O sundry sorts of Barbary-Gold valued at 2000 Barbary Ducats, which upon demand at Sea were delivered aboard the said Companies ship Endeavour, by T. C. late Master, and T. H. late Factor of the Ship Little-William of London, belonging to the abovesaid William Courten Esquire, to the said R. B. Master, and Hen. O. Merchant; and by them taken in Charge in, or about the 24. of May, 1644. And by the said Rob. and Hen. weighed with Rials of eight Spanish, weighing Rials of eight 1544. and one quarter, which with two Brasse-guns (and interest and insurance added) amounted at least to 5000 li. sterling. All which the said B. and O. delivered to F. D. the said Companies Agent there at Madraffapatan, &c. which the said D. &c. denied upon all demands, detaining and converting the same to the said Companies use: The proceed whereof was thence to Bantam, then to Jambee, and again to Bantam (all duties deducted) would amount at least to 60. per cent. profit, which makes 8000 li. and thence to England, cent. per cent. (ult. Interest ever since) amounts to 16000 li. 0 s.

To charge of a Patamar or Footpost, about forty dayes travel to and again to demand the same, 2 li. 18 s.

To charges also of Wal L. Factor, horse and three men about six months, or 180. dayes at Rials Eight one and halfe per die. is 67 li. 10 s. principall; to demand and protest for denying and detaining the same, which according to custome there by account, or the said Companies policies here by Insurance at 10 s. per Rial of Eight amounts to 135 li. 10 s.

## East-India Companies Charge, &amp;c.

To fourteen days demourage of Ship Loyalty in Raiapore river to prepare against the Mallabars 150 li. afterward eighteen days at Goa 150 li. to attend for intelligence, and prepare for Acheen, and Madraslapatan to demand the same, and upon intelligence afterwards sent to Pedia principally for the same occasion, and to meet there the said ship Endeavor, reported gone thither, and for other provisions and charges with Governours, Merchants, and others to obtain a freight. 600 li. 0 s.

To ten months more provisions for the said ships voyage, rials of eight 800. at 10 s. per rial is 400 li. 10 s.

To dead freight and demourage (ultr. breach of Covenant) demanded by the Owners, 12000 li. 0 s.

To five months and thirteen dayes demourage of ship Tho. and Jo. at 180 li. per month is, 978 li. 0 s.

To provisions for the said ship, rials of eight 400. at 10 s. per rial is, 200 li. 10 s.

Feb. 27. 1644.

To losse in saile of 1260 Candeas, Saltpeter, to Capt. Jer. Blackman (with other charges) at two and a half Pagothies great, per Candee, is pag. 3150. valued per peece rial of eight 1 and 3 quarters, is rials 55.12 and a half at 10 s. per rial, is, 2756 li. 5 s.

To Customes of Raiapore contracted with Mastapha Con. at 2500. pag. gr. per an. for six years losse is, 6555 li. 10 s.

To Pistcalthes or gifts to the said Mastapha Con. and other Creditors to pacifie them rials of eight 400. is, 200 li. 0 s.

To charges of Factors and Factories at 2500 li. per an. prevented employment ever since, 15000 li. 0 s.

To charges of three ships to plant Madagascars; Sun, James, Hester, destroyed for want of supplies. 12000 li. 0 s.

To ship James sold for want of trade. 3000 li. 0 s.

To dead freight, and other damages per ship Sun, 5000 li. 0 s.

To constant watch and Fortification of Carwar against Mallabars, thereto provoked by the said East-India Companies massacres, and depredations upon that coast. 500 li. 0 s.

Summa Total, 75329 li. 3 s.

Further



## Further Assertions, and probable Suggestions. viz.

*The losse of China-Trade, and 10000 Rials of Eight left there formerly, much prevented by them, and now at last wholly disappointed.*

*To 2000 Rials of Eight, returned thence by Captaine Blackman, and left at Acheen, with Trade, Jewels, and Goods there seized by the said Companies Factors, and lost to an unknown value.*

*To Ship Abigail, likewise consigned thither, and lost for want of supplies.*

*To Ship Friendship, likewise then consigned thither, but in like manner disappointed and lost.*

*To 1000 li. per an. for seven years proffered for Raiapore, with Upland-trade, Harrapore, Rabagg, and Vizrapore.*

*To 7000 Pagothies great at Carwar (ultr. building, fortifying, and other great and continuall charges; conceived above 20000 li.) the onely Port of hopes and consequence in possession of English, now in great danger to be lost to the Dutch or others, which will set a higher value upon it, then the inconsiderate English, as in my following Carwar considerations, I have more at large expressed, but I hope speedy care will be taken for to secure the same.*

R. H.

Adde hereto.

*The losse of Henry Bonaventure (laden homeward bound) upon Mauritius Island, and most of the ship and goods there saved by the Dutch.*

*The ship Bon Esperanza taken by the Dutch in the straight of Malacca bound for China, and then (computat. computand.) principall and damage.*

*The feet of this particular Charge, English and Dutch, will probably bear the whole body, and carry the Account to, or above the whole, or first Adventure, viz. 150000 li. (ultr. Dragon, and Katherine, and Propriety exclud.)*

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Summa Total. 150000 li. ultr. &c.

Lastly,

Mr. Courtens  
new Associa-  
tion.

Their practise.

Jo. F.  
government.

20000 l<sup>r</sup>. or  
thereabouts  
supposed, sent  
home in sun-  
dry ships

5000 li. left at  
Livorne.  
Mr. Courten  
supplanted.

Raiapoor Cu-  
stomes 1125 li.  
per an.

Plea for the  
same

Lastly, Mr. *Courten* by the foresaid mis-doings and oppression was so weakened in his estate, that (for the better support of his trade) about *Anno* 1642. he was constrained thereby as well as by advice of friends) to associate with Mr. *M. T. Capt. J. B.* and others adventurers (who were altogether strangers in that trade, but made such use of his necessity (as appeared by the sequel at home and abroad) whether by clandestine, private, and prejudiciall Contracts, and Covenants made with himsele at home (which plainly demonstrates Mr. *Courten* a meer Gentleman, and no Merchant) or by compliance with his Agent or chiefe Factor then in *India*, Mr. *Joh. F.* a man howsoever otherwise able) yet of very corrupt principles and practises, and his government (being altogether a stranger there) proved exceeding damageable to his imployer (though very beneficall to himself, as might largely be demonstrated, but whether by the one, or the other, or however else seems impertinent to this Discourse; onely this by the way, That when his Agents & Factors in *India* presumed they had, or might have sent from thence, *An.* 1645. and 1646. (either upon Mr. *Courtens* own account, or in partnership <sup>16</sup> in sundry ships, or bottomes, viz. the *Great-William*, the *Tho.* and *Jo.* ship *Hester*, and ship *Sun*, &c.) an estate of or near twenty thousand pounds, or upwards, proved but about five thousand pound, and that left at *Livorne* by the said Cap. *J. B.* in the hands of the *East-India* Companies Agent there (as reported) and by him long detained, which with the Premises hath wholly interrupted and supplanted him in the course of his Trade, and supplies of his Factories and Plantations in *India*, and much prevented the payment of debts both here and there, as also the Customes of *Raiapoor* contracted with *Mustapha Con.* to whom the said *Joh. F.* (with extraordinary charge to his imployer) went to *Vizapoor* *An.* 1645. purposely (when all supplies failed) to conclude and take off the dead charge of contracted Customes of 2500. pag. gr. per an. which is about 1125 l. per an. *English*, but what was done therein, is to me altogether unknown and uncertain, onely gather from common report, that the said *Mustapha Con.* and his governour at *Raiapoor* (or others in their stead) still requires the same from the present Traders (the Old and New *East-India* Company from whence peradventure they may pretend themselves Creditors, notwithstanding they have

have wholly deprived and disabled him at home, and abroad of all supplies and payments, yet peradventure he must be preferred a great Debtor to the present Traders for the same.

Thus you have the conclusion and sad Catastrophe of *William Courten* Esquire, and his *East-India* Trade, together with divers of the passages, transactions, and Mysteries thereto appertaining, formerly by himselfe and others freely and frequently communicated to his foresaid Associates, and supposed Friends, now by them transferr'd to his profest Adversaries, whose principles and practises therein hitherto never declared them good Common-wealths-men, but rather contrary; but now proceeding upon another's principles and foundation, better things may be expected.

Mr. Courten's Catastrophe. His friends inconstancy, his destruction their best foundation.

**Y**ET further for information; If neither the consideration of the good successe and government of forreigne Nations, nor fifty years sad and wofull tryall of our owne Nation, nor the generall forbearance of those of experience (and enriched at home and abroad by that employment) to adventure in their joynt Stock, nor the unwillingnesse of the former Mannagers (though most incompetent) to resigne to others, (for errors accustomed, as aforesaid, are not easily removed) nor the abusing and villifying of our owne Natives, and native Commodities under one Buyer, and Exporter, nor the advancing and enriching of Forreigners, and forreigne Commodities under one Seller and Importer, nor the prevention of the increase and employment of abundance of Ships, Mariners, and Merchandizers, nor the generall prevention of Arts, Industries, and Manufactures, many by restraint forced (contrary to their affections and abilities) to some unpleasing home-bred employments, with many other Morall respects; yet in a religious consideration and obervation, those that beleve History and Mystery, Divine and Humane to be inseparable, co-operating concomitants in the course of Gods providence, to accomplish the Decree, and the good pleasure of his Will revealed in his Word, either for weale or woe, (whether to Person, Nation, Society, or Incorporation) will plainly perceive, that the supine neglect of Plantations, relating to the great worke of Creation, likewise the neglect of Evangelicall injunctions, and dispensations by Gospell promulgations, and propagations, relating to the glorious worke

Informations, considerations, and reasons.

Morall and religious considerations.

Creation, and Redemption.

Heavie Judge-  
ments.

Common-  
wealth preven-  
ted, 8. or  
1000000. li.  
per annum.

The Embleme  
displayed.

Whither one,  
two, or no  
joynt Stocks  
best.

Two better  
then one.

Ireland confi-  
derable.

A foundation  
laid in bloud  
shall not prof-  
per.

A good founda-  
tion and  
constitution.  
New doctrine  
to the old  
Company.

of Redemption, are transgressions of a high provocation; and who knowes but for this very cause, Heaven may be justly offended? then must earth of necessity be punished, and so the judgements and designs of worldly wise men insatuated, and blasted, and thus this Common-wealth already becomes frustrated, and prevented of a probable possibility ( compar'd with the *Dutch* ) of profit and advance at least 8. or 1000000 li. per annum besides Honours, and other Emoluments unconceivable; And ( according to the Embleme and Motto in the Frontispeece ) Whither the deviation of this Company in point of *Policy*, or the Aberration of the *Papacy* in point of *Piety* be of greater extent and transcendencie, is a Riddle for me too high to reach; I cannot read: but surely both their dayes are numbred, and ere long their yeares will be expired; but I would not willingly enter into a Controversie ( being sensible of my owne insufficiency ) but rather humbly submit, and commit the same to the grave judgements of those at the Helme, and in Authority: whether one or two joynt Stocks, or none ( save regulated Societies, or Associations for *East-India* Trade, are most requisite and necessary to advance, and enrich this Common-wealth ) though former experience here clearly evinceth to all ( if joynt Stocks must be continued ) two better then one, and that for many good reasons? But if the Common-wealth of *Ireland* be included, then doubtlesse without dispute, upon undeniable grounds, two at least will be of absolute necessity, and in the apprehension of some of experience, a second constitution may have a farre better foundation ( in this worst time of Trade ) then the former, and so expect better successe; for to some of observation and judgement, it seems yet very doubtfull ( for I must neither dawb nor dissemble ) whether this be not laid deep in bloud and Oppression, as the premises partly discovers; besides much more may be said to that particular, wherein I will be sparing.

But seeing this Discourse hath led us thus farre, let us proceed a little further, and consider that a good foundation and constitution ought to be laid and framed, on, and upon the best principles, and grounded upon the best reasons; which doctrine of Trade, however new to the Old *East-India* Company ( who for their time therein ought to be Teachers ) because opposite or diverse

verse from their general Government, & concluding it il hitherto; yet it shall also be so true and rational, for Information, Confirmation, and Confutation, that (I hope) it will (in knowing judgements) hardly admit any opposition or contradiction; and shall be briefly included in two or three lines, being Principles or Positions gathered from serious, long, and laborious consideration, observation and experience, *English, Dutch, and Portuguese*, for the good of this Commonwealth, as followeth, viz.

For information, confirmation, and confutation.

Three East-India Principles.

### Three East-India Principles, (i.e.)

1. **T**hat none resident in England can governe East-India Trade, but in a known way of prejudice to generall Adventurers.

2. That none resident in India (under a forreigne Government) can mannage that Trade, but greatly dishonour and damnisie this Commonwealth.

3. That no place or places, nor posselt by any English ibere much considerable [*see Carwar*] one of Mr. Courtens *Factories*.

With the two first, relating to the Company, I will not meddle further, till they finde opposition.

With the last, more particularly relating to Mr Courten, I will a little expatiate in some Carwar considerations, to illustrate the same.

*Some Carwar Considerations, demonstrating the same last Principle, viz.*

**T**hat it is the free purchase and possession of Sir William Courten, with a great summe of money many yeares since.

That it is built, fortified, and maintained ever since, with extraordinary care and cost: and that it is most commodiously situated for Road, Bay, River, and ground, for a generall Rendezvous to and fro all parts of *India*, for order and regulation.



Note that all these particulars are of absolute necessity, besides, the capacity of the place will containe a Colliory, or Plantation of 10000. people, more apt and fit for imployment there, upon every occasion by Sea and Land, then from *England* in many yeares can be attained.

Dutch valuation  
of Carwar.

And I am very confident if the *Dutch* once possesse it, as they have often desired, that 100000 li. ready money will not re-deeme it out of their hands.

And in point of Government, it is most necessary for a generall Court of Merchants, not only for disposing, ordering, and regulating, but also for preventing private and other inconveniences in Trade, without the unconceivable damage of delay, and in that equipage much prevent those continuall disturbances, injuries, and oppressions from Christians and Heathens hitherto sustained.

Likewise it will secure and secret both persons, and all sorts and quantities of Commodities, from force, or notice of the Natives, with great advantage to the Adventurers, which in the course of the old Company never was, or can be done, either at *Surrat*, or *Bantam*, their Meteropolitan Factories, and prevent a losse in sale of goods (besides Customs) of 10. or 12. per cent. at least, which under a forreigne government cannot be avoyded.

Furthermore, there is store of Timber to build Vessels, with one halfe of the charge usuall at *Surrat*, also up the river at *Cadran*, and thereabouts only, is that admirable Timber of *Teca*, for Planke and Sheathing under water, a singular preservative against that common ship-destroying water-worme.

It is also the only Pepper Coast from *Cape bon Esperance*, to *Cape Commereen*, or *Cannereen*, and the only knowne coast in the world for *Cardamomes*, or *Graines of Paradise*, (a generall Commodity,) with many more accommodations for trade and shipping for the benefit of Adventurers, too tedious to relate.

Moreover, it is situate neare *Salses*, a pleasant and fertile place (about a Counties compasse, inhabited by *Portugall*, *Cannereen* Christians, living under oppression, being willing and of power to free themselves, and desirous the *English* were in a capacity to protect them, which (well peopled) in case of Controversie, would curbe and controule as well the *Portugall*, as others, and the only meanes to become there and elsewhere checkmate with the *Dutch*, who are now become Lords, and Protectors



over all *India*, by the Companies submission, neglect, and general bad Government. Much more might be said in point of propriety, and otherwise if occasion present.

If one of Mr. Courten's Factories so well situated, purchased, Carwar cost planted, fortified, and defended (with the charge at least of and consequence. 20000. li. hitherto) with all or more adjuncts and accommodations then formerly express'd) can be of such high consequence and concernment in relation to that Trade, as indeed it is; and if all the Companies Factories in *India* put together, cannot afford scarce any one of these particulars, either for situation or accommodation, as indeed they cannot; for the Dutch can disturb the Nations, and so displace them at pleasure; then of necessity it must be concluded of more value then any, or all possess there they please.

by any other *English* whatsoever. And that it might be made New Model-known to the Company, and new Modellers to be so indeed, lers warned to and in truth, and to prevent the losse thereof, I thought it not prevent losse amiss (intr. alias) to certify so much in writing in *December*, of Carwar.

1649. delivered Mr. M. T. and by him said to be communicated to the Mandareen, or Govenour, &c. of the said Company, The Authors letter. and for these ten or twelve yeares by past, I have not been sparing. His paines and charge.

or penurious either of my paines, or papers, at my owne cost and charge, but rather prodigall and superfluous (though to my exceeding great prejudice) to inform and beget a true, and right understanding of this Trade of Trades (for the good of this Commonwealth) both amongst the Nobility, Gentry, Commonalty, try. Commonas (amongst many others) may appear by a large Paper-booke, nalty.

left with that worthy Patriot Sir H. M. some yeares since, and Sir H. M. a bundle of Papers of the same subject left with Mr. M. T. above three were Novices therein, and from whence Mr. Courten, and others relating to him (and not by revelation or experience of one inductions and instructions. Voyage) they had such informations and instructions in the Best Judgements and mysteries of that Trade, that they are and may be taken for the best present judgements of that Society, because of Principles.

their Principles, yet (for a common good) let them not presume too much thereupon, for it will surely come to passe, that Want of experience, or will many former transactions of that Trade with other Nations, or will our owne, may come in controversie, where want of experience may prejudice and knowledge in some, may command their silence, and want of will

The Authors  
grievance.

5000. li. con-  
fessed travel, that  
the Statute, &c.

will in others for shame, or by-respects of damage, or dishonour, may cause forbearance; and so a good Cause and the Common-wealth may suffer, for want of men of integrity, and ability, hitherto neglected, and slighted; and as on the one side by violence, so on the other by their close and subtil dealing (supposed thereby much to disable Mr. Courten to pay wages, and debts to his Factors, which rests upon their owne conscience, discoveries, and so the disposing of that 5000. li. at *Livornia*, being a speciall motive to his travell and absence, and that principall Plea for the Statute issuing. But I make too great a digression.

Yet it comes into my minde, that it will be very necessary first, to answer some Objections that may be made by some, in behalfe of the foresaid Company, viz.

Another ob-  
jection.

Some will here Object, and say, *You bring strange and uncounted things to us indeed, which we scarce ever heard of; the East-India Company we know in City, Court, Westminster Hall, have abundantly exclaimed, and envyed against Mr. Courten publicly, and frequently before the late King, and this present Parliament, by pleadings and printings, exhibited to Lords, Commons, and sundry Committees, &c. and elsewhere; if you can, lets know the matter.*

Part of their  
3<sup>d</sup> Argument.

'Tis very true, they have so indeed, and all about interloping Trade, and depredations, which depredations they are bound to make good (as themselves say in their six smooth printed Arguments) and if to make good others depredations, then surely much more their owne; But their actions hitherto are altogether contrary to their expressions, and they proceed to instance their smart thereby, as it lyes in the latter end of their fifth Argument (as I remember) saying, *C. and E. in the Red Sea, and Capt. W. in China, and at Masulapatan, &c.*

C. and E.  
Water of fact.

The deepest waters commonly make least noise; well, but to matter of Fact, viz. *C. and E. in the Red-sea, &c.* This *C. and E.* it seems by Mr. *Endimion Porter*, the late Queen and others, purchased a Patent under the Great-Seal of England for a *Red-sea* voyage, being there, tis probable they took and robbed some *Moor*es Vessels or Junks, trading thither from *India*; that done, *C. and E.* went to *Molalah* (one of the foure *Maiotto* Islands near *Madagascar* as reported) to trim and victual; and

so

for in the interim, the complaint came by the *Moore*s from the *Red-sea*, to *India*, and procured an Arrest upon the Companies President there, (as it was afterwards related in *England*) fled. thereupon the said President dis-spedded the said Companies ship *Discovery* from *Surrat* (Mr. J. P. Commander) who arriving at *Molutch* aforesaid, found and seized upon the said C. and E. and their ship or ships, as they were trimming and refreshing there, and so served them as they had done the *Moore*s, took from them what they had (making prize of them) brought all their stolen goods to the foresaid President for the said *East-India* Company, and (if we may beleve the report of one well knowing the passage) the Company got thereby ten or twelve thousand pound, and made no satisfaction to the *Moore*s, but whether they did or no, what is all this to Mr. *Courten*, more then to the Man in the Moon? that they should (even against common reason) so continually and violently urge it, to the great damage and dishonour of Mr. *Courten*; for if those *Moore*s had been *Mallabars* (who likewise traded thither) then Mr. *Courten* had furthered a designe for his own destruction, which is absurd to imagine? But this clearly confirms my principles from themselves in that particular of living under a forreigne government, what inconveniences, damage and dishonour they are subject to continually without remedy, as well under heathens as Christians? Besides, it was ordinary twenty or thirty years agoe (when the said Company had more power and credit in *India* then I suppose now they have) for the Presidents of *Surrat* (when their ships (according to the season) were gone thence) to be not onely imprisoned, but *Chambuck* or *Strapts*, or sore threatened, for their owne depredations, or other misdemeanours, or disgust given to the *Moore*s when there was no C. or E. in that Country; witnesse Mr. K. (now, or late of their Committee) who was twice President there, likewise Mr. R. and others; therefore this President (if there had been no C. and E.) must not look to scape better then his predecessors; this onely would have been the difference, he would have borne it with silence as the rest did, but these frivolous and unreasonable clamours too plainly demonstrate some other cause, which they are not willing to expresse in plaine terms, which could be no other then an evil eye at his *India* Trade, and that likewise they might

Comp. Pr. Arre-

Jo. P. surprised  
C. and E.

Mr. T. K.

Com. plea un-  
reasonable and  
absurd.Principles con-  
firmed from  
themselves.Mr. T. K. M. R.  
twice Presi-  
dents impriso-  
ned, &c.Comp. discove-  
ries an evil eye

A mystery.  
All factories  
recalled.

East-India  
Trade prosper-  
ed.

Dutch design  
of Dr. and Ka.  
known or sus-  
pected.

Mr. Courten  
never intended  
a Merchant.

The Moors ap-  
prehensions  
of the indastri-  
ous English.

Mr. G. Councel  
late K &c.  
so D:cm.  
1639.

The Dutch  
presently pos-  
sess Mauritius  
wholly, and set-  
tled upon Ma-  
dagascar.  
The late King's  
testimony.

Bank Gilds.

might have prevented if there had not been some mystery there-  
in; for when Mr. Courten presently after his fathers death (it  
seems) recalls all his Fathers Factories in *Europe, Asia, Africa,*  
and *America* (only this of *East-India*) and of this an overture  
or proffer (with considerable losse) was made, when the voyage  
was but newly begun, and exceeding hopefull; but that proffer  
was refused (by report) upon very unreasonable terms, for causes  
best known to themselves, and which I leave to others to imagine,  
as to that Company, but as to Mr. Courten, I will give this note  
upon it, That in the least (thereby it appears) he intended not to  
be a Merchant, his education being far otherwise, but thereto  
merely constrained by an accidental Executorship, as by his pre-  
sent revocation of all trade, and endeavouring this, plainly ap-  
peared.

But as concerning the Presidents at *Surrat*, if they have escaped  
better of late years then formerly; truly the best reason that can be  
rendred thereof, is the Expedition of Sir *William Courten*, for the  
*Moors* at *Surrat* then perceiving that the industrious *English*  
could finde trade enough elsewhere, would use them with more  
civility, lest they should be deprived of them; and their money,  
other reason I know none.

But I well remember this very particular of C. and E. was ve-  
hemently urged by Mr. G. (then the Companies Councell, and  
Cities Recorder) before the late King, and a full Councel-board  
the tenth of *December*, 1639. when the said Companie pre-  
vented the Earles of *A.* and *S.* their planting *Mauritius* and  
*Madagascar* Islands (no little discourtesie to this Common-  
wealth) and the said G. and Company still pressing earnestly this  
business of C. and E. against Mr. Courten; The King then sud-  
denly rose up, and spake to the said Company thus: *Gentlemen*,  
I pray let me hear no more of it, and what you have suffered by  
it, I will see it satisfied some other way; but for Mr. Courten  
to my knowledge he had nothing to do with it: yet notwith-  
standing this testimony, the search and view of accounts, and  
what other satisfaction could be desired; they still persisted by  
troops (having *Baals* odds, and *Demetrius*'s advantage) to so-  
licit Parliament and Committees with the same continually for  
many yeares together, and never could prove any thing,  
being impossible in relation to Mr. Courten's depredations,  
and

and for that very cause of depredations (twas reported) Sir William Courten would never adventure with the said Company, Sir Wil. Cour. but I rather thinke his judgement did therein direct him (being tens reason. an extraordinary industrious and judicious Merchant) perceiving the said Company in no rationall or thriving way of management, or government.

But it so came to passe afterward, that Mr. Courten was admitted by a Committee to prove the said Companies depredations (which was by some conceived an extraordinary courticic) but the first witness was no sooner entered upon discovery, but was presently silenced, and suffered to proceed no further, and therefore formerly whosoever solely appeared to oppose them, must first be sure of Micajah's cause and confidence, and Paul's perswasion and full assurance, as it was long since with Mr. R. S. (before he was a Parliament man in opposition to Sir H. G. Sir N. C. Mr. C. Mr. M. (and the rest of that then Royall Company not a few) who pleaded boldly and judiciously before a Committee in the inner Chequer Chamber (Sir H. V. senior Chareman) who very discreetly noting the advantage of oddes, gave him good encouragement in the prohibition of their unciwill interruption. And thus much concerning C. and E. shall suffice.

Comp. depredations.

Micajah and Paul.

Mr. R. S. now an hon. Member of State. Pep Con. Sir H. V. senior

C. & E. ended.

NOW to proceed viz. And Captaine W. in China, and at Me- C. p. W. in susupatan, &c. Here's news indeed! Cap. W. in China! for he China, part of was the first English-man in China that ever traded upon English their fifth Ar- account. But if you will know the reason in good earnest, why gument, both Dutch and English so rage and envy thereat, you will finde it to be this, The fear of damage, by competition, in the one, and of Dutch and English true shame and dishonour in the other: For if ever the English attain reasons, nor a China and Japan Trade (which will be very difficult now) their pretended and all, or part of their right in the Spice Islands, and else- difference with the Portugals. where, as Ormus, &c. (all hitherto with incredible prejudice Dutch Doubts neglected) and then the same managed with discretion, the Dutch will soon finde and feel a diminution of their present wealth and glory?

And as for the English; What a shame and dishonour to Eng fear, and them after forty or fifty years experience, to be taught the prin- shame. ciple of East-India Trade by one never there? (as indeed they Sir Wil. Cour- were then by Sir William Courten) and at present by Mr. T. tens new do- and ample.



First return  
clear first Ad-  
vent.

Comp. then no  
foundation.

Fort St. George  
built since by  
A. C.

The Dutch  
content with  
Comp. traffick.

Eng. outed at  
pleasure.

Cap. W. at Me-  
sulipatan.

The Comp.  
necessary.

Cap. W. cour-  
tise.

1000 li. bor-  
rowed.

Comp. con-  
trary requitals.

Mr. E. K.

1000 li. debt  
doubtfull.

and the new Modelliers, proceeding upon the very same grounds and principles) and that in one voyage, if his designe had not been envied and malign'd (and the *Dragon* and *Katherine* come home as well as the *Sunne*) would probably have more then cleared the first adventure of 150000 li. and have left a considerable stock and foundation of Trade for posterity, far better then the Companies, then having no foundation with all their expence of time, and vast stocks of Nationall treasure, the like never known in *Europe*; And for these reasons principally it highly concerned both parties to endeavour and agree his ruine.

The *Dutch* being very well content with the Companies subjection, and poasting Traffique, because they can disturb the Natives, then accounting them their enemies, and so out them at pleasure, when, and where they list, by prohibiting the *English* all trade and traffique with them upon pain of confiscation of ship and goods, which the Company must not disobey, as formerly exprest.

Well: Cap. W. from *China* passes the *Dutch* Pikes through the straights of *Malacca* with much ado, as aforesaid, and came to *Masulapatan* upon the Coast of *Chormandel*, being there, the Companies Factors (contrary to their Commissions, and Orders, yet in self-love) seemed very well pleased with their comming thither, and after some complements, the said Factors discovered at last their present necessities (the chiefe motive to their pretended courtesie) and made it their request to Capt. W. to borrow of him one thousand pounds, alleading that their expected supplies failed, and so their Factories on that Coast were in great want; hereupon Capt. W. courteously supplies them with one thousand pounds, and this was all the mischief that hitherto I ever heard he did them, at least maintaining their credits (if not preserving their lives.)

**B**Ut this, and many more hath been required the cleane contrary way, as plentifully appears by this Discourse; and whether this 1000 li. was paid again to Captaine W. or any other for Mr. Courten, I certainly know not; but this I know, that one of the said Companies Factors late in *India*, was credibly reported to deliver himself in these, or the like words openly and plainly, viz. That if he list, he could make it appeare how the *East-India* Company did owe Mr. Courten 1000 li. (besides the 5000 li. formerly

formerly mentioned, which surely was conceived to be meant of this foresaid thousand pounds being unpaid.

And thus you have the reasons and causes (in my apprehension) of those their long and lamentable out-cries and insupportable prejudices and smartings (as themselves terme them) and if any other can hereafter be discovered then what is formerly expressed, I hope 'twill be no hard taske to see them truly and fully answered, unlesse by mentioning and adjoyning therewith, Sir K. D. assault of the *Venitians* in the Road of *Scandaroone*, if they lay that to Mr. *Courten*'s charge, truly then Mr. *Courten* himselfe, or some other for him, must come and see that impudently answered, and removed, for I cannot therein say any thing on his behalfe, therefore I must be excus'd.

But I have made my digression farre greater then I expected, now I come to the Letter formerly promised, whose long silence (receiving no answer) put me into a muse, and at last I resolved to give summons to my treacherous memory, to try whether or no I had writ that briefly, or in a Mystery, which I could not explaine more largely, as in this confused discourse, or history; and now followes the said Letter *verbatim*, which was principally intended to secure *Carnar* for future advance of Trade.

*The Letter, i. e.*

*SIR, or SIRS:*

The product of former Discourses runs into this result; That whereas the *East-India* Company (and their Accomplises, and Adherents) have sundry wayes and times sadly manifested, their great dislike of that just and legall expedition of Sir *William Courten* Knight deceased, as by the wofull experience of *William Courten* Esq; his Son, Friends, Creditors, and faithfull Factors and Planters plainly appeareth.

Yet if any Christian remorse or consideration may conduce for a speedy attonement for advance of Trade, and encouragement of the intended subscription, and removall of all obstacles, and animosities possible for the better clearing a way for the new Modell to passe into an Act, whose frame and foundation (for ought yet appearing) save the Authority and Coyne of the Commons of *England*,

*England*) seemes plainly to be laid upon the hidden and remaining Basis of the aboveſaid Sir *William*, and his Sonne, &c. in the ruine and deſtruction of their Trade, Shipping, Factors, Factories, and Plantation of *Madagaſcar* by the Parties aboveſaid, done, and procured as in due time may be demonſtrated.

And ſeeing nothing now remaines to the Proprietor (or other wel-willers to that Trade on his behalfe (ſave *Carwar*) howſoever ſleighted or neglected by ignorant, inconfiderate *English*, and preſent undertakers; yet I am confident, (and that upon good grounds) if the *Dutch* get poſſeſſion (as they have often deſired) and as 'tis ſaid) they have already *Cannanore*, (for they are wiſe, and diſcreet Merchants indeed) 100000. li. ready money (as formerly often expreſt) will not regain it out of their hands, ſeeing it is of more conſequence then all places poſſeſt in *India* by any other *English* whatſoever at preſent; And if ſo, as in truth it is, then it highly concerns the new Modellers ſpeedily to ſecure the ſame for recovery of that Trade (if poſſible) and for the good of this Common-wealth, ſeeing the Proprietor, and all others by their former and preſent proceedings, are now wholly and altogether prevented to ſupply the ſame.

But as hitherto, ſo now, that nothing may be wanting on the Plaintiffes part (if it wil not be thought preſumption in a mean and private perſon, a common wel-willer) of himſelfe to make an Overture by way of Propoſall, which doubtleſſe would be wel pleaſing both to God and good men (if agreed upon) eſpecially to the foreſaid Company, whether New or Old (if rightly underſtood) the ſaid party further preſuming in time convenient, to procure the conſent of the foreſaid Plaintiffe, and other parties therein concern'd, though the ſum propoſed be not a fifth, or rather a tenth part of the damage ſuſtained; As by particulars, (beſides bloud, and other prejudice to the Common-wealth (as he conceives) may be made plainly to appeare. Therefore thus:

It is well knowne that about 5000. li. and two braſſe Guns, beyond *Cape bon Eſperanze* were ſurreptitiouſly got, and upon all demands there denyed, and (as 'tis ſaid) coynd and converted (in their great neceſſity) to their owne uſe; which ſaid ſum and Guns there ſo unjuſtly detained (with intereſt and inſurance here added) would amount in all this time (conſidered either in

courſe

course of Trade from *Madrasapatan* to *Bantam*, so to *Jambee*, then againe for *Bantam*, so for *England*; severall retournes without dilaster, or considered according to interest of *Dutch-Batavia*, or *Achen* Factory, whether it was consign'd) would I say amount to 20000. li. and upwards, &c. which summe, the one moyetie forthwith for *India* to discharge the debts there (and by that employment contract ed) to the Natives, for the honour of the Nation, and freedome of Trade; And to others, whose faithfulness is approved in that employment; The other moyetie towards satisfaction of Creditors here in *England* in time convenient, and so all differences of damages dye, and all parties acquiesse, the one in their cruel, unreasonable, and uncharitable spoyle, whose case can be no better: The other in his sad and unparallelled sufferings, whose condition can be no worse.

Sir, You may perceive the premises points at sundry particular persons, and things, of concernment, and therein your selfe nor the least in regard of former passages and sutt ingagement, and you may conceive what content, or profit, a happy or speedy attouement might procure to each particular (especially the *East-India* Company, the new Modellers, and Common-wealth, (if duly considered, all which) I referre to your more serious thoughts to move therein, as God and your owne conscience can best direct you; let not the truth offend you:

London 25 of December

1649. Delivered Mr. T.

Exc. 28. Dtt.

Your humble Servant

I. D.

This melancholly Letter implicitly, is the summe or substance of most of this Discourse, in relation to the *East-India* Company, and present Traders (the proposall and proceed of that 5000 li. excepted) and was principally intended for the preservation of *Carwar* for the good of this Commonwealth, as formerly exprest.

And seeing I have likewise intimated something concerning the Island of *Barbadoes*, &c. in the *West-Indies*, I shall attend the pleasure of Authority or others, to deliver the best of my knowledge therein: In the meantime I will close, and conclude both, in this generall Assertion, and particular Application thus:

## Affertion.

**T**hat no Lord, or Commoner, or Society of Commoners, in or out of England, haib so good (if any) reall and personall claime, Right and Propriety, in, or to the East-India, Mallabar, Acheen, and China Trade, &c. or in or to the Island of Barbado's, &c. in the West-Indies, as Mr. Courten, or others in his behalfe.

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## The Epilogue.

**T**Hus far, Sir, I have laboured (alone) in the discharge of this my duty, with as much plainnesse and perspicuity as I can, to informe your selfe, and others of the truth of the Premises: And if any doubt or scruple should be made, touching any part or parcell thereof, I question not but the same may be satisfied.

I had my Induction here into this work the foresaid 10. Decem. 1639. at Councell-table (long before I knew, or was known to Mr. Courten) where, and when I perceived (from the principall person there present) that publick affairs ran too much upon the byas of particular profit or interest (the bane of all Commonwealths proceedings:) And what paines and attendance hath been given therein upon all occasions, is partly knowne to divers Lords and Gentlemen, as well as your selfe, gaining my labour for my travell.

\* Great losse  
and hazards,  
and marvailous  
deliverances,  
I hope for  
good.

Besides, I am very sensible what\* prejudice I have sustained thereby, both from the *East-India* Company, and others therein concerned: And yet truth (which is strongest) hath hitherto exceedingly appeared in my weaknesse, against such mighty oppositions, and hath almost accomplished my aimes, and the hopes of my desires (the reward of my paines) which was, and



is, To see the *East-India* Trade (of such high concernment) a State, and Commonwealths businesse; and willingly will give my further attendance therein (if thereto required) according to that small talent of knowledge and experience God hath given me.

And so now I commit this Discourse wholly to your further care and consideration, to move therein as your wisdom and judgement can best direct you, and so henceforth possesse my selfe with patience and in rest, and confidence, in beleeving attend (if peradventure) after a sad and gloomy night of sorrow and adversity, a glad and joyfull morning of redresse and prosperity, will arise upon that deep, distressed, and oppressed family. And in this expectation resolve to abide, Sir,

*Your very humble Servant,*

**John Darell.**

**FINIS.**

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*Errata's.*

Page 5. line 25. read tending, p. 7. l. 15. r. of, l. 25. r. Sir, p. 20. l. 5. r. factors and, p. 30. l. 8. r. and discoveries, l. 10. r. a principall.

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